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Prescot Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

BY

S. M. GREEN,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health for the
Prescot Urban District,

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

SCALES & WELSBY, Printers, High Street, Prescot.

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PRESCOT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1938

SUMMARY of the particulars required by the Ministry of Health Circular 1728, dated the 25th October, 1938.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area, in Acres	875
Population—Census, 1931, 9,396. Registrar General's Estimate of resident population, 1938	11,510
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	2,202
End of 1938 according to Rate Books	3,175
Rateable value	£57,422
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£220

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area.—The chief occupation of the inhabitants is Cable making (Electrical) at the Works of Messrs. British Insulated Cables Ltd. Printing and Bookbinding are also important industries in the town.

Extent of unemployment.—Approx. 5%.

The influence of any particular occupation on public health.—None.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births.—Legitimate	183	104	79
,, Illegitimate	9	4	5
,, Total	192	108	84

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 16.6.

	Total	M.	F.	
Still births ...	10	4	6	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and Still Births) 49
Deaths ...	127	66	61	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population *11.0

Deaths from Puerperal causes—	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 Total (live & still) Births
Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Ni	Nil

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	67
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	54
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	333
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	15
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

Population for Calculation of Birth and Death Rates, 11,510.	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		
	Live Birth rate	Crude Death rate	Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births
Mean of 5 Years—							
1933-1937	14.4	11.5	0.38	1.50	12.39	11.77	55
Year—1937	13.8	14.9	0.17	2.35	12.57	11.90	75
1938	16.6	11.0	0.52	1.30	Nil	Nil	67
Increase or Decrease in 1938 on—							
5 Years' Average, 1933-1937	+2.2	—0.5	+0.14	—0.20	—12.39	—11.77	+12
Previous Year	+2.8	—3.9	+0.35	—1.05	—12.57	—11.90	—8

*1938 adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.16)=12.7 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN PRESCOT URBAN DISTRICT IN 1938.

Causes of Death.	Males	Females
Al Causes	66	61
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
Measles	1	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	2
Influenza	—	1
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory	4	2
Other tuberculous diseases	—	—
Syphilis	—	—
General paralysis of the insane, etc.	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease	8	7
Diabetes	—	1
Cerebral haemorrhage, &c.	3	—
Heart disease	12	20
Aneurysm	—	—
Other circulatory diseases	1	3
Bronchitis	7	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	[illegible]
Other respiratory diseases	—	—
Peptic ulcer	1	1
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	1	1
Appendicitis	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver	—	—
Other diseases of liver, etc.	—	—
Other digestive diseases	—	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	1	—
Puerperal sepsis	—	—

Causes of Death (Continued)	Males	Females
Other puerperal diseases	—	—
Congenital, debility, premature birth, malformations, &c.	6	3
Senility	10	5
Suicide	1	1
Other violence	—	1
*Other defined diseases	7	6
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—
Diarrhoea (2 yrs. and over)	—	—
Special Causes (included in * above)—		
Small-pox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephaltis	—	—
Deaths of infants under 1 year—		
Total	8	5
Legitimate	5	5
Illegitimate	3	—
Live Births—		
Total	108	84
Legitimate	104	79
Illegitimate	4	5
Stillbirths—		
Total	4	6
Legitimate	2	6
Illegitimate	2	—

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment.—None.

Any causes of sickness or invalidty which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year.—Excess Diphtheria, and Influenza.

Any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.—None.

Any evidence, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has excercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.—None.

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health : Dr. S. M. Green, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Remuneration (including bonus, if any) as M.O.H. at 31/12/1938—£180.
Is he a whole or part-time officer of the local authority ? Part time.
Any other public appointments held by him ? Certifying Factory Surgeon.
Is he in private practice ? Yes.

Sanitary Inspector. One. Mr. Charles J. Hulme.
Remuneration (including bonus, if any) as Sanitary Inspector at 31/12/1938.
£310 inclusive of allowance £5 as Inspector of Factories.
Is he a whole or part-time officer ? Whole time.

Veterinary Inspector. Yes.

Remuneration. £20 per annum.

Are his duties entirely in connection with action under the Tuberculosis Order, 1935 ?

Yes.

Does he make a routine examination of every herd in the district ? Yes.

If so, how often ? Quarterley.

Any other Specialised Inspectors (*e.g.*, Food Inspector) ? No.

Other Public Health Officers, such as Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Health Visitors, Special Nurses, Dental Surgeon, etc. None.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES :	
(a) For Infectious cases	Motor Ambulance of Joint Hospital Board.
(b) Non-infectious and accident cases.	Motors from Whiston Infirmary and Messrs. British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescot.
(c) Maternity patients.	Ditto.
Comment briefly on adequacy of Ambulance service, etc.	Services adequate.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES :	
Is there in your district—	
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (Consultation and treatment).	Yes.
Address of centre.	Old Grammar School, High Street, Prescot.
Give day and time open.	Monday and Thursday each week from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	Yes, as above, Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Day Nursery.	No.
School Clinic.	Yes, as above, Monday and Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to noon.
Orthopaedic Clinic.	Yes, ditto, only by appointment.
Artificial Light Clinic.	No.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	No.
Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.	No.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME :	
Nature of arrangements made by the local authority in the district for—	
(*a*) General Nursing.	None.
(*b*) For infectious diseases, *e.g.* Measles, etc.	None.
Total Amount of financial assistance given by local authority to voluntary associations.	None.
New legislation (if any) and date of operation :—	
Local Acts.	None.
Special Local Orders.	None.
General Adoptive Acts.	None.
Bye-laws relating to public health.	None.
Observations as to their administration.	None.
Hospitals in the District :—	
(*a*) Public.	None.
(*b*) Voluntary.	None.

Is there any Institutional provision in your area for :—

Unmarried mothers.	Yes, at Whiston Infirmary, provided by the Lancashire County Council.	
Illegitimate infants	do.	do.
Homeless children	do.	do.

Health Education :— Any action taken during the year in regard to the publication of information or dissemination of knowledge relating to health or disease? (*e.g.* Health Week, Special Lectures, etc.)	Posters exhibited and leaflets distributed.
Give brief description of special efforts made locally in connection with National Health Campaign to secure a wider use of the health services?	List of Health Services printed and deposited at the General P.O. where a notice to that effect is displayed.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water supply :	Liverpool Corporation, from Lakes Vyrnwy and Rivington.
Source.	
Is supply satisfactory ?	(*a*) In quality ; Yes. (*b*) In quantity ; Yes.
Constant or intermittent.	Constant.
Approximate number of dwelling-houses with piped supplies (public and private).	Direct from Mains 3264. By stand pipe, 22.
Possibilities of contamination.	None known.
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination.	None.
Any liability to plumbo-solvent action ?	No.
If piped supply, state if water has been controlled by bacteriological examination.	If so, No. of examinations. None by District Council.
Approx. No. of dwelling-houses * supplied from wells, springs, streams, etc.	One.
Have these waters been analysed during the year ? If so, state result.	No.
Any insufficiency, and where.	No Supply to Carr Lane and Hole-ith-Wall.
Nature of extensions (if any) during the year.	Mains extended to New Building Sites.
Rivers and Streams—	
Action taken to check the pollution of streams.	Inspection and informal action.
Sources and nature of pollution.	Trade Waste.
Have any new works been established (such as artificial silk works, cheese manufactories, etc.), and is there any resultant river pollution ?	No.
Drainage and Sewerage—	
Sewage disposal works, method of treatment.	Hydrolytic Tank and Bacterial Filters.
Any extension or improvement during the year with regard to works and sewerage system.	No.
Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system, and reason therefore.	Hole-Ith-Wall and High Hill Farm areas. No sewer available.
Action taken—Drain testing, flushing, etc.	Sewers are regularly inspected and flushed.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1938 : (In this connection note last yea'rs figures)	Privy Middens.—No. of middens, 1937, 12 ; 1938, 12 ; No. of closets attached to these middens, 12.
Does this system still exist in populous and closely built centres ?	No.
	No. of pail closets, 7. No. of dry ashpits (*excluding middens*), 90. No. of fresh water closets 4,000. No. of movable ashbins for refuse, 3,216. No. of waste water closets, 18. No. of houses on water carriage system, 3,278.
Conversions—	During year 1938. / During five years. 1933—1937
No. of privy closets	
To fresh w.c.'s	None / 42
To waste w.c.'s	None / None
To pails, etc.	None / None
No. of pail closets	
To fresh w.c.'s	1 / 18
To waste w.c.'s	None / None
No. of waste w.c.'s to fresh w.c.'s.	None / None
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	49 / 205
Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets ?	Yes.
Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion ? If so, how much ?	Half cost and Ashbin towards conversion of midden.
What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for *new* property ?	Fresh Water.
Public Cleansing—	
(*a*) The method of collecting dry house refuse	Motor Dust Lorry.
(*b*) The method of collecting refuse from earth closets and privies.	Ditto.
(*c*) The method of disposing of dry house refuse.	Controlled tipping on land.
(*d*) The method of disposing of refuse from earth closets and privies.	Ditto.
(*e*) The method of cleansing cesspools.	Emptying by hand pump.
(*f*) Arrangements for the disposal of cesspool contents.	Discharge on to land adjoining the Sewage Disposal Works.
If a destructor provided, state situation.	None provided.

tate whether public cleansing is carried ont by sanitary authority, contract, or occupiers of houses ?	Sanitary Authority.
Any extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements ?	No.
Are motor vehicles used ?	Yes.
If privy middens exist, are they emptied by day or night ?	By day.
Does the Sanitary Inspector supervise the scavenging ?	No, surveyor.
anitary Inspections during 1938— ncluding Housing—See 3 B†)	
No. of premises visited.	830.
Defects or nuisances.	No. discovered (excluding defects in houses for action under Sec. 11 of the Housing Act, 1936), 470. No. abated, 496.
o. of Notices served.	Informal 470, Statutory 35.
egal proceedings.	None.
moke Abatement :	
Any special action taken with regard to smoke abatement ?	No.
No. of factory and works chimneys in the district.	20.
No. of observations	6.
No. of legal proceedings taken and result.	None.
Particulars of any co-operative action with industry.	None.
What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour ?	None fixed.
ops and Offices—	
Particulars of any action taken under provisions of Shops Act, 1934, relating to :	
(*a*) Ventilation of Shops.	338 visits to shops.
(*b*) Temperature of Shops.	None.
(*c*) Sanitary Conveniences.	Preliminary notices served in relation to 1 shop and Heating apparatus provided. Intimation notices served on owners of 5 shops, 1937. 3 shops provided with w.c.'s, other 2 in hand.
wimming Baths and Pools—	
(*a*) Public Swimming Baths or Pools.	None in District.
(*b*) Privately-owned Swimming Baths or Pools open to public.	None in District.

Eradication of bed bugs—	
Particulars of action taken during 1938 :—	
Number of houses found to be infested	(*a*) Council houses 4. (*b*) Other houses 51.
Number of houses disinfested	(*a*) Council houses 4. (*b*) Other houses 51.
Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs.	Fumigation and Spraying.
State name of fumigant and/or insecticide used and efficiency thereof.	Sulphur Candles. Slatford Insecticide, almost instant death on contact. Satisfactory.
Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.	Insecticidal spray of articles belonging to tenants in condemned property. A number of mattresses were burned.
Is work of disinfestation carried out by local authority or by a contractor?	Local authority.
Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.	Advice given by Sanitary Inspector.
Schools—(*a*) Sanitary Condition.	There are a number of Trough Closets at each of 3 schools (4 schools in district).
(*b*) Water Supply.	Liverpool Corporation. Satisfactory ? Yes.
Offensive trades.	One. Rag & Bone Merchant.
Action taken or needed.	None.
Date of any bye-laws in force in respect of offensive trades.	None in force.
Workshops and Workplaces : What is their condition ?	No. on Register, 35. Satisfactory
Common Lodging houses.	No. on Register, 1. What is their condition ? Cleansing and repairs required. Date of bye-laws 15/3/32.
Houses let in Lodgings.	No. on Register. None kept. Action taken or required. None. Date of bye-laws. None in force.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	Date of bye-laws. None in force. Action taken or required. None.
Underground Sleeping Rooms.	Any need for regulations ? No.
Canal Boats.	Number inspected. None in District.
Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928 : State whether there are in the district any premises on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.	None. No. of samples taken. None.

4.—HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	221
(i	By the Local Authority	148
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	None.
(iii)	By other bodies and persons	73

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :

(i) By the Local Authority	148
(ii) By other bodies or persons	None.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	759
(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1794
(2) (*a*) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	None.
(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	None.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	18 new cases
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	37

Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	136

Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	29
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	19
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None.

*B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None.

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made :..	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	None.
(3) Number of back to back houses dealt with	13

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	65
(ii) ,, families dwelling therein	65
(iii) ,, persons dwelling therein	513
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (i) ,, of cases of overcrowding relieved by Local Authority	18
(ii) ,, of persons concerned in such cases	127

A number of other cases also became "uncrowded" due to marriages and deaths.

1. **General Observations as to housing conditions,** including the standard of houses, the prevalent types, age and approximate numbers and general soundness of the several types—any information as to prevailing forms of defects and of prevailing bad conditions resulting from overcrowding: Approx. 31% of the total number of houses in the District were erected prior to 1890 and about 7% are to-day unfit for habitation, 33% were erected between the years 1890 and 1918 and 36% from 1918 to date.

Approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district—39.

2. **Sufficiency of supply of houses.**
   - (a) Extent of shortage, if any. There are a number of vacant houses in the district at a rental of 14/6 per week.
   - (b) Particulars of any housing scheme in hand or contemplated. Second Scheme for rehousing from clearance areas almost completed. Houses for overcrowding to be considered.
   - (c) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future. None.
   - (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses. No.

3. **Overcrowding.**
   - (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1938. None.
   - (b) Number of cases of overcrowding which have been relieved in the course of Slum clearance operations, 16.
   - (c) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. None.
   - (d) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, e.g. causes—how far it is due to inability to pay the rents of available houses, etc. Entirely due to shortage of larger houses at low rents.

4. **Fitness of houses.**
   - (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts. None.
   - (b) Special measures taken or suggested, *e.g.*, in relation to particular types of insanitary property or in regard to arrangements for the gradual carrying out of programmes of repair. Proceeding under Housing Acts.
   - (c) Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply, 23.
   - (d) Number of houses which have no water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation. None.

5. **Action taken during the year regarding Clearance Areas** :—

No. of areas represented—One.
No. of areas cleared, 23 comprising 135 houses cleared of tenants.
Three other areas comprising 24 houses almost cleared of tenants.
No. of new houses built to rehouse displaced tenants, 160.
Improvement Areas :—
No. of areas represented—None.

6. **Byelaws relating to houses, to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, sheds, etc.** Adequacy of existing bye-laws of each class, and special difficulties in or limits upon their enforcement. Bye-laws required with respect to houses let in lodgings and to tents, vans and sheds.

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply. Action taken with regard to—	Milk Shops, cowsheds, and dairies periodically inspected, also milk-carts and vans.
The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.	
The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938.	
No. of dealers' licences issued by the local authority during 1937, in respect of :	" Tuberculin Tested " milk : Bottling : None. Distribution : None. Accredited milk. (*a*) Bottling : None. (*b*) Distribution : None.
No. of licences issued in respect of " Pasteurised " milk :	Pasteurising plants : None. Retail distributors : 2.
Method used for the pasteurisation of milk (" flash " or " holding ").	Holding.
Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded mi k with reasons for the refusal or revocation.	None.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—	
Are they periodically inspected ?	Yes. How often ? Quarterly.
What is their condition ?	Satisfactory.
Have any notices been served during the year requiring structural alterations or improvements to farm buildings ?	None.
† Has any owner undertaken (voluntarily) structural alterations or improvements to farm buildings, *e.g.* the re-modelling of cowsheds ?	None.
Any information as to the cost of work, either actual or estimated, giving separately, if possible :	None.
Farms—	
Number of dairy farms.	3.
Approximate number of cows in the district.	50.
Cowkeepers—	
Number of cowkeepers (including the dairy farms).	5.
Number of inspections during the year.	40.
Dairymen or purveyors of milk (other than cowkeepers).	15.

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? Give particulars.	Yes. Quarterly inspection of Milch cows by Veterinary Inspector.
If a Veterinary Inspector has been appointed give (*a*) the approximate number of cows inspected and (*b*) the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis.	(a) 50 cows inspected quarterly. (b) Nil.
Action taken by the local authority as to—	
(a) (i) Tuberculous milk. Number of samples submitted for bacteriological test.	10 for L.C.C. Result—Positive, Nil. Negative, 10.
(ii) Bacteriological examinations.	Standard adopted, None.
(iii) Sediment tests.	None.
(b) Meat, &c.—Observations on— (1) Action taken with regard to meat and other food, including inspection of slaughterhouses, meat shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared.	201 Inspections during the year.
(2) Has a public slaughterhouse been provided?	No.
Private slaughterhouses :—	Number registered : 3. Number licensed : None.
Bakehouses :	Number : 9. Condition : satisfactory.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding) Cows).	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	69	2	12	150	134
Number inspected	69	2	12	150	134
All diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	,,	,,	4	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	13.05%	,,	,,	2.66%	2.23%
Tuberculosis only— Whole cases condemned ...	Nil	1	,,	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	,,	,,	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.9%	50%	,,	,,	13.4%

16. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation provided or available :—

For Smallpox : Yes. Where situate : Hospitals of Liverpool Corporation.

No. of Beds ? Any available.

Is the hospital used by " agreement " or " arrangement " ?

By written agreement.

Are any retaining fees paid ? Yes. £18 per annum.

For other infectious diseases : Yes. Where situate : Whiston Sanatorium.

Is the hospital used by " agreement " or " arrangement " ?

Joint Hospital Board.

Are any retaining fees paid ? No.

Or, if a joint hospital, is the district a constituent authority ?

Yes, since 1st March, 1938.

Are patients required to contribute towards cost of treatment ? No.

Cost per patient year ended 31st March, 1938, £18 17s. 4d.

Observations as to sufficiency or otherwise of the available accommodation :

Additional accommodation under consideration.

Has any action been taken or advised with the object of securing that the hospital accommodation available is utilised to the best advantage ? No, not necessary.

Has action been taken to shorten the period of stay of uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever ? No.

Or to replace hospital treatment in suitable instances by nursing and supervision at home ? Cases are left at home in suitable instances.

Have any new methods been adopted for the selection of individual cases for which admission to hospital is most imperative ? No.

Or any new decision as to the admission of cases of diseases such as measles or whooping cough ? No.

Noteworthy facts as to the source or spread of infections. Increase of number of cases of DIPHTHERIA—77, compared with 23 in 1936 and 47 in 1937.

The clynical type of and diffusion of

(a) Diphtheria—A mild type. (b) Cerebro-spinal fever, None.

(a) Diphtheria antitoxin.—Notes on the supply and prompt use : Used promptly in every case.

Is a supply kept WITHIN the district ? Yes. If so, where ? Residence of M.O.H., 22, Church Street, Prescot, and Bixters' Limited, Prescot.

(b) Anti-menigococcus serum. Supplies can be quickly obtained from Liverpool.

Are any other vaccines or sera supplied free to medical practitioners ? No.

Any relation between cases of scarlet fever and puerperal fever. No.

Pneumonia, malaria, and dysentery.—Experience in regard to these diseases : Very little Pneumonia. Malaria and dysentry—Nil.

The extent to which school intimations of disease are utilised ? Early investigation.

Pathological and bacteriological examination.—At which laboratory are specimens examined ? EVANS's Biological Institute, Runcorn, Cheshire.

Number of specimens examined in 1938 : Tuberculosis sputum, 17 ; Diphtheria, 262 Throat Swabs.

IMMUNISATION material supplied free to Medical Practitioners on request. Scheme under consideration.

If any of the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district, state for what period (see Table on page 18) :

Measles—No. Whooping Cough—No. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)—No.

Chicken-pox—No.

Any others.—No.

Observations—None.

Number of times School Closure adopted during 1938 for—

Scarlet Fever—None. Whooping Cough—None. Diphtheria—Once. (Sept. 21st to Oct. 10th).

Chicken-pox—None. Measles—None. Influenza—One.

Any other diseases—None.

Number of reports made during 1938 under article 17 (7) of Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935. None.

Other diseases which have received special attention, *e.g.*, locally contracted anthrax, epidemic jaundice, rheumatic fever, undulant fever, glandular fever, or psittacosis? None.

Cancer. Any observations as to the prevalence of cancer? Any undue prevalence in particular organs? State any local action taken to improve facilities for diagnosis and treatment of cancer (whether by the local authority or otherwise)? None.

Are present facilities adequate? Yes (Liverpool Hospitals used).

Any use made of the facilities provided by National Radium Centres? Yes.

Any local investigation or action undertaken on the lines suggested in the series of Ministry's circulars on Cancer? No.

Prevention of Blindness :—

Action taken (if any) under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes—None.

Disinfection after infectious disease :—

Number of houses disinfected during 1938. 117. Method (state disinfectant used) :—Fumigation by Sulphur or Formalin.

Are houses disinfected after (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Yes. (b) Measles. No.

†Apparatus used for clothing, bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise).—None.

Number of articles disinfected.—Not known.

Where is apparatus situated? Steam apparatus at Whiston SANATORIUM.

†If apparatus at hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., of patients NOT removed to the hospital? No, clothing left in bedroom at time of disinfection.

DISINFESTATION :—

What arrangements exist for the disinfestation of verminous, etc., persons? Bathing and Disinfection.

In how many instances has disinfestation been carried out?—None.

The prevalence of any animal or insect pests such as rats, bugs, fleas, or mosquitoes, etc., should be referred to and particulars given of the measures taken for their suppression.—Bugs and fleas found mainly in old houses. Rooms and furniture are fumigated or sprayed.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1938.

"Notifiable" Diseases	Total Cases at all Ages (a)	Total Cases Notified — Years: Under 1	1–2	2–3	3–4	4–5	5–10	10–15	15–20	20–35	35–45	45–65	65 and over	Total Deaths. (b)	Hospital. Total Cases removed to Hospital from the district. (c)	Hospital. Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district (d)
Smallpox	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Scarlet fever...	30	–	–	–	4	2	13	5	2	4	–	–	–	—	21	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	80	1	1	2	2	5	29	21	6	12	–	1	–	2	78	2
Enteric fever, (including paratyphoid)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Acute primary pneumonia...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Acute influenzal pneumonia	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–		1	
Cerebreo-spinal fever ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Acute polio-encephalitis ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Dysentery	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1		3	–	—	2	—
Malaria Contracted—																
In this country ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Abroad	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Any other diseases *notifiable* in district, *e.g.* :—																
Chicken-pox	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Measles, excluding German Measles	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	—	—
Whooping cough ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
Any other disease— ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—	—	—
TOTALS	115	1	1	2	6	7	42	26	8	18	–	4	–	3	102	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods.	*New Cases. Respiratory M	*New Cases. Respiratory F	*New Cases. Non-Respiratory M	*New Cases. Non-Respiratory F	Deaths. Respiratory M	Deaths. Respiratory F	Deaths. Non-Respiratory M	Deaths. Non-Respiratory F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
20—25	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	3	4	2	—	4	2	—	—
Totals	7		2		6			

*All primary notifications included, and any other new cases of tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

What is the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths? All notified.

In your opinion, is the notification of tuberculosis in your district efficient? Yes.

Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify? No.

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district? No.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade—

Under Article 3—No.
,, 5—No.
,, 6—No.
,, 7—No.

Public Health Act, 1925 and 1936.

Any action taken under Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936? None.

If so, No. of applications for Orders for compulsory removal to hospital.—None.

No. of cases in which Orders were granted—None. Observations—None.

7.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Is the Maternity and Child Welfare work carried out by the *local* authority or by the County Council? County Council.

What arrangements have been made under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926 for :—Hospital Treatment—None. Provision of Nurses. None.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
Nil	Nil	Nil	No.	No.	Nil	Nil.

Child Life Protection (under Part I. of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons' Act, 1932). Action taken—None.

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspector.

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ...	22	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	37	Nil.	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	59	Nil.	Nil.

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	Nil.	Nil.
Want of ventilation	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors (defective) ...	Nil.	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient / unsuitable or defective / not separate for sexes ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	Nil.	Nil.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK. (1)	Instances (2)	Notices served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, &c.			
Cleaning and washing			
Household linen			
Lace, lace curtains and nets			
Curtains and furniture hangings			
Furniture and upholstery			
Electro-plate			
File making			
Brass and brass articles			
Fur pulling			
Cables and chains			
Anchors and Grapnels			
Cart gear			
Locks, latches and keys			
Umbrellas, &c.			
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents			
Sacks			
Racquet and tennis balls			
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags			
Brush making			
Pea picking			
Feather sorting			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.			
Stuffed toys			
Basket making			
Chocolates and sweetmeats			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, &c.			
Textile weaving			
Lampshades			
Total	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1938. Evacuation and demolition of property in clearance areas.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of district.—Demolition of condemned property, paving of back passages, re-conditioning of old property, Destructor for refuse disposal and rebuilding of Yew Tree and Council Schools. Also Secondary School for Girls required.

(Signed) S. M. GREEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

21st FEBRUARY, 1939.